

# MOMs\* in the NAS

## the Challenge of the New Millennium

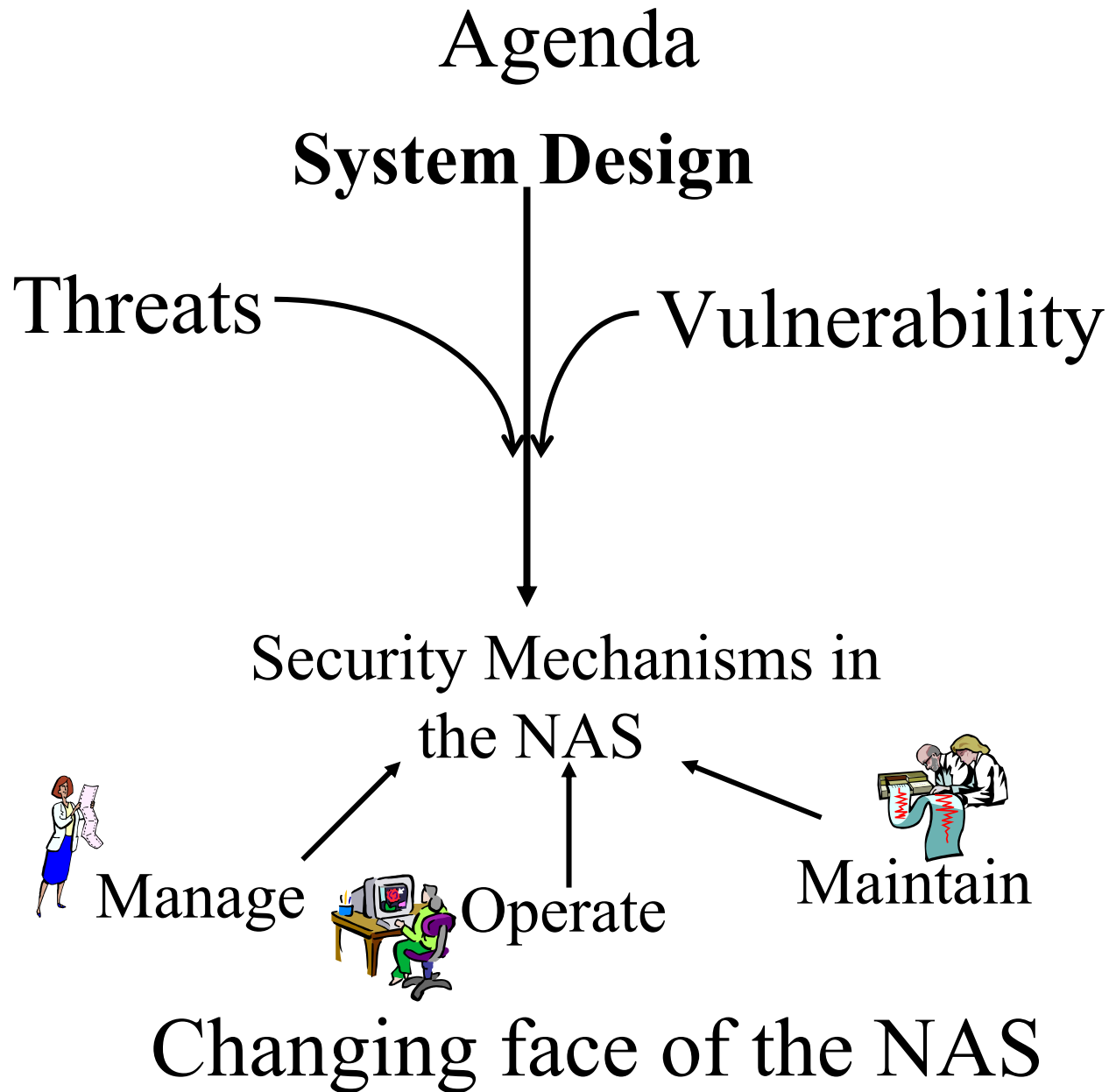


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\* Management, Operation, and Maintenance of the Information Assurance of the NAS under current national preparedness and economic conditions



# National Air Space (NAS)



# New Paradigm

Pre 9/11

“Catastrophic events - Safety and loss of life”

Post 9/11

“Economic impact on Nation of loss of confidence in the NAS”

New NAS – not only safety of flight but must address national preparedness and emergency that consists of sonar and sub-sonar traffic

# Evolution of NAS Real Estate



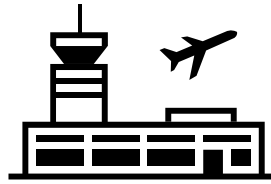
**1980s**

**Design Specifications**

**Proprietary and arcane  
OS/SW legacy systems**

**Limited External  
communications**

**Security by Obscurity  
Low emphasis on  
system security**



**1990s**

**Functional Specifications  
instead of design specs**

**COTS/GOTS with  
known vulnerabilities**

**Open Communications  
with trusted/untrusted  
partners**

**System Specific security  
assessments**



**2000**

**COTS/GOTS in NAS with no  
insight, access or  
documentation rights to code**

**Multiple security solutions  
increased implementation,  
integration, and  
maintenance problems**

**Federated NAS with  
different security  
requirements**

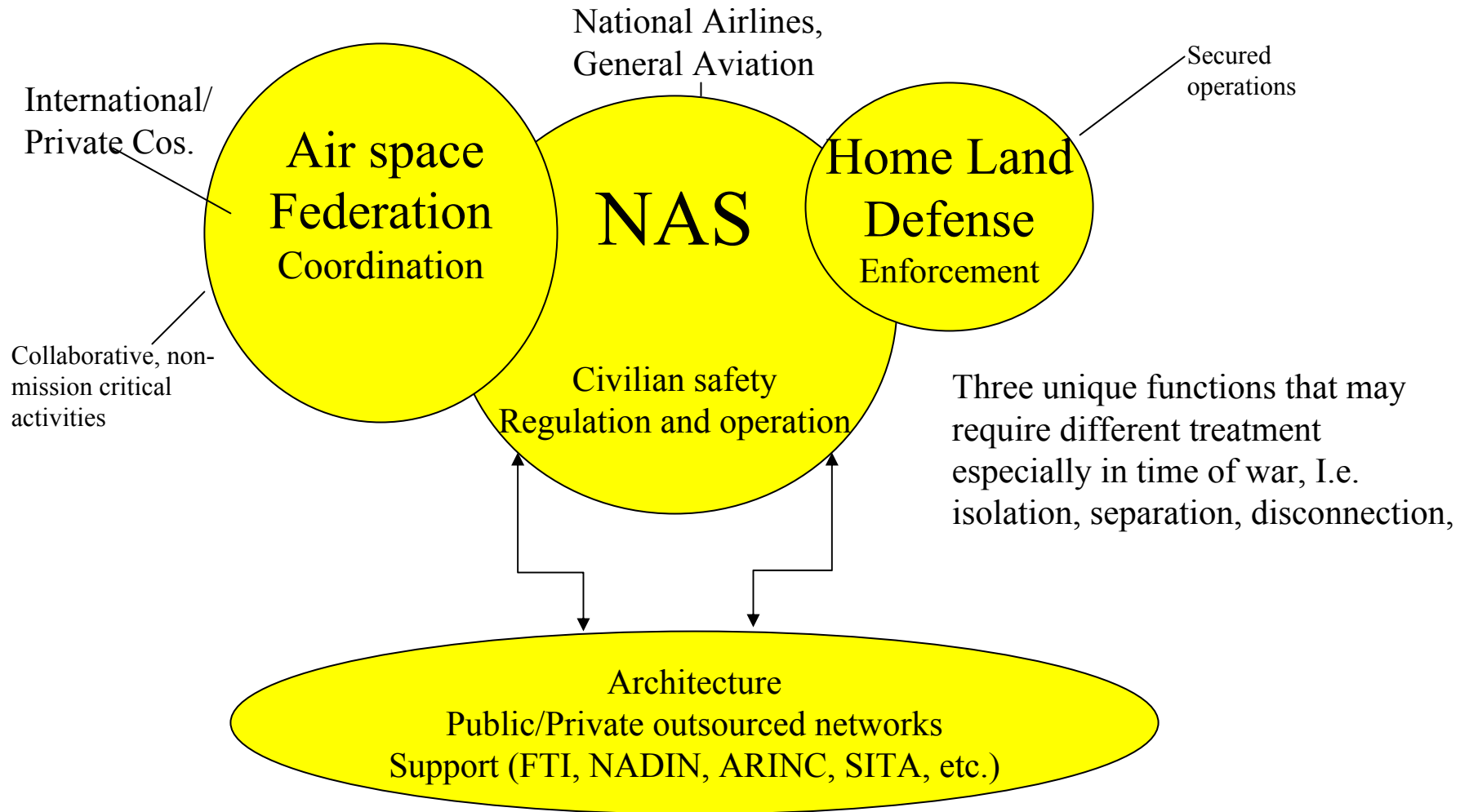
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# FEDERATED NAS SECURITY CONCEPT AND LIFE CYCLE IMPLEMENTATION PLAN (MOM)

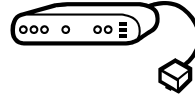
# NAS Relations -The New Federation



# NAS INFRASTRUCTURE



## Ground Systems:



COTS (?), GOTS, Legacy, which will not be completely replaced for 20 years (Routine and critical systems)

Some COTS system components do not meet NAS RMA or avionics 178B requirements

System by System security approach mandated by OMB, NIST, and FAA proliferates non-interoperable security products such as firewalls, access control and encryption, IDS, virus checkers, etc.

No Government-wide or FAA policies for standards, protocols, security mechanisms, software validation for the air-ground or ground-ground environment especially ones that are compatible with DoD

No strategic plan or vision for a secure NAS that includes life cycle MOMs  
not an easy problem!

## Range of security needs – A and I



# NAS INFRASTRUCTURE

## Federated NAS

### International Data Communication Community

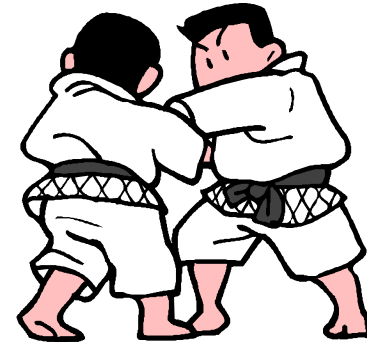
- ARINC, SITA shared networks
- Hostile and friendly nations
- Ground systems

### Partners

- Airlines
- Weather Services

### Common Carriers/Communication Systems

- FTI
- Legacy networks
- ARINC



## Range of security needs – A and I

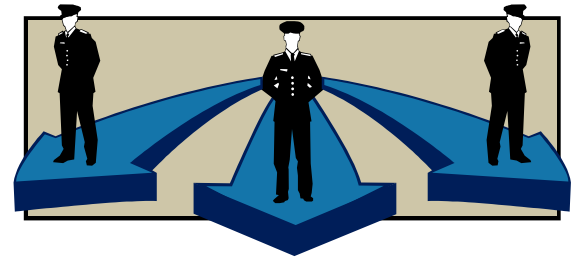
Routine to Critical systems

Concept to jointly MOM – especially as it relates to the critical NAS is very hard – different agendas

# NAS INFRASTRUCTURE

## Secure NAS

- Homeland Security and DoD Partners
- Surveillance, Navigation, and Communication Systems



Range of security needs – A and I  
and C

They are all critical systems and  
we need to jointly MOM

# NAS Ground Infrastructure

## Remote Access and Control

NAS requirement for Remote management, however, little progress has been made in this area

- No standards – Equipment supports varied OS with limited and sometimes non-secured capability

- NAS-wide Security Maintenance Policies are not in existence or inadequate

- Do not have a SOC or CSIRC for the NAS

- Security System Administration training is not adequately provided

- No detection, isolation, and restoral policy and procedures

## COTS systems with no insight into code

- Zombies, Time bombs, Trojans, etc.

- Spy ware (UCITA) – legal and illegal

- No standard for virus checkers and patches and no standard for detecting, fixing, testing, certifying and downloading

Business Best Practices that we would expect from health care providers and financial institutions

# Need to develop Threat Scenarios

Realistic possibility Terrorist Attacks on the critical infrastructure

Inexpensive

Easily understood and available attack technologies

Big bang for the buck

Feasible and well know ways to attack the air-to-ground links

Feasible and well know ways to attack the ground-to-ground link

What are effects of:

Cyber (air-to-ground, system) compromise that causes accident –  
Commercial/commercial, commercial/GA commercial/military

Cyber compromise that has intermittent effects on the NAS and causes Chaos

# Influence National and NAS Policy

## Government policies encourage poor security practices

Homeland Defense allows development of security software overseas

COTS systems software and hardware used ubiquitously developed in (hostile cyber warfare) foreign countries

Off-shore development of IT software

Exporting of crypto algorithms

Access of service provider records – (forensics analysis and prosecution) and outsourcing of services

**Short term impact –possible undetected compromised systems and lack of knowledge to isolate and restore**

**Long term – Brain drain**



# Immediate Security Needs

A CONOPS for managing operating and maintaining the NAS during normal operations and in times of compromise or national emergency:

- Detection and coordination strategies for compromises to the NAS

- Disconnection of compromised systems and perhaps NAS/aircraft non-critical communication

- Isolation of the critical NAS/NAS-Homeland Defense components

- Implementation of as-needed basis security mechanisms, I.e., authentication, integrity, audit and possibly confidentiality

- Defined roles and responsibilities of NAS personnel and NAS partners to perform these activities

- Cooperative plan to restore compromised systems

# Long-Term Research Suggestions

Assessment of future air-to-ground protocols and technologies for security vulnerabilities and develop mitigation strategies

IDS and firewalls for non-IP NAS protocols that are well know and easy to attack

Performance based (non-intrusive) IP IDS and firewalls

Voice and data authentication methodologies A-G/G-G

Methods to provide confidentiality perhaps on an as-needed basis

Alternative methods of situational awareness in the event of compromise

Automated methods to evaluate source code, software

Common goal of meeting the FAA Mission –  
collaboration and standards